

Grafrica

New Directions | For Positive People

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Betty Carter captivates an audience at the recent summer festival - Celebrate Brooklyn. (see Centerfold)

EDITORIAL

In 1827, John Russwurm and the Reverend Samuel Cornish successfully originated one of the black community's most significant and influential institutions — the black press. **FREEDOM'S JOURNAL** proved to be the foundation for the subsequent literary and reporting efforts of black journalists. A statement of purpose was made in this first issue, "... Whatever concerns us as a people, will ever find a ready admission into the **FREEDOM'S JOURNAL**."

Since this auspicious beginning, the black press has been a reliable vehicle for redress of grievances, protest of injustice, defense of dignity and appreciation of our art & culture. It has sought to inform, enlighten and entertain. The black press has remained a forerunner and staunch supporter of the efforts to educate the people and heighten awareness of all forms of the black experience.

The direction of the 80's indicates a disheartening sway toward conservatism that smacks of McCarthyism in its adherence to oppressive tactics. In this climate, the free press is oftentimes the first to suffer. Black artists and writers, especially, are beginning to feel the brunt of this

brutal trend, as the moral majority seeks to censor their work and oppress their being.

The black press, in general, has upheld the pledge made by John Russwurm to the "dissemination of useful knowledge among our brethren." However, black publications cannot sustain themselves without the support of those they represent. It is our responsibility to shore up our institutions and organizations. How? Subscribed. Advertiser. Contributor. and Commercials.

All too often, newsgathering agencies and individual journalists bypass the black press as a format for publication. Minority journalists are more apt to contribute their talents and creativity to established white-owned publications, bypassing avenues of expression that have been created for their use. The recent spate of ads brought against established papers by minorities on still, leads one to question this methodology.

The Black Owned Communications Alliance (BOCA) is one example that is attempting to re-define the priorities of the black readership at large. BOCA has designated September 17 as black media day. Black Americans are urged to

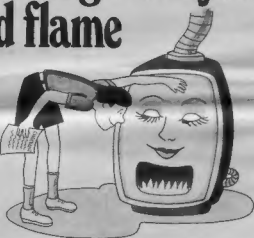
buy black newspapers as a show of support and unity. It is a small but significant first step in the process of re-acquainting

the public with the merits of the black press. Hopefully day one will lead to day two and three until the habit of picking

up a black publication becomes second nature. We hope our readership will join Graphics in its commitment to

FREEDOM'S JOURNAL assertion — "we wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us."

Now is the time to bring back your old flame



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Believe it or not, the best time to make sure your gas heater will be ready when the fall weather suddenly turns cool is right now.

It's easy and takes only a few minutes of your time. Check your gas heating unit now by simply following the checklist.

If your heater doesn't come on after you make these checks, move the thermostat back to its lowest point and call PSE&G. You'll find the number on your bill and in the telephone directory. One of our service specialists will check it out free of charge during the summer months if it isn't working properly.

There will be a service charge of \$11.50 if we're called to turn on your gas heater between Labor Day (September 7) and October 31. A great many of our customers call us during our busy fall season when

GAS HEATING UNIT CHECKLIST

START-UP TEST

- If gas heater pilot is on, set thermostat full degree above room temperature. Now heater should come on.
- If pilot light is off, follow the instructions outlined on heating unit to relight pilot. Burn a few minutes; then make the thermostat.

STILL WON'T START? CHECK THESE:

- Thermostat is set above room temperature
- All gas valve switches are on the "On" position (usually marked on or near the heating unit or at least on basement stairs)
- All fuses and circuit breakers are ON and not tripped

INSPECT YOUR HEATING SYSTEM

- **STEAM SYSTEM** — Check water in sight glass. Blow, turn on the water supply valve to bring the level of water up to the half-way mark. Then turn the valve off.
- **HOT WATER SYSTEM** — Listen and make sure the circulating water pump is operating.
- **WATER AIR SYSTEM** — Check to see if there is operating. Check or replace a clogged filter.

their gas heating units won't work. This puts a great strain on our work force and results in long delays.

FREE!
Gas Customer Guide to Safety and Service

Return this coupon now for your handy guide to do it and don't do it (gas safety) and the various PSE&G offers to customers.

Customer Information P.O. Box 216
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☐ Spanish Language version
☐ English Language version

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Return this coupon today!

PSE&G Public Service Electric and Gas Company

Urban Voices - The Poet Loves The City

Copy Credit: Bruce M. Terry
Photo Credit: Manisa K. Muzza

On Thursday, July 30, 1981 The Urban Voices of Newark celebrated their first anniversary by honoring those outstanding citizens of North New Jersey for their numerous contributions to the community and the arts. After a warm welcome from Sister Zul Lattifah The Urban Voices collective presented plaques to honorees John G. Clemens, Dr. Clement A. Price and Phill S. Thomas.

Urban Voices is a collective of poets, visual artists and writers who have spent a large portion of their lives in the urban setting and bring their particular sensitivities and insights to fascinating glimpses at our life experiences. Formed a year ago by Joann Butler, who presently resides in California, Anne Godson Brown, and Mariotti Cruz, the collective presents at no-charge.

Ed U. Talmont directed at helping us all as Zul Lattifah stresses, "...Work Together, Stay Together and Stay Together."

John G. Clemens is a graduate of Syracuse University presently working in the Public Relations Department of A T and T. His list of writing credits include the local magazine Metro Newark, The Star Ledger newspaper and Black Enterprise Magazine. Dr. Clement A. Price is a professor of history at Rutgers University in Newark and the author of "Freedom Not Too Distant", a compelling documentary of the lives of Black folk in New Jersey. A constant advocate of the arts, Montclair State College Grad Philip S. Thomas currently serves as the urban coordinator of New Jersey state council on the arts.

The most outstanding feature of this gathering though, was the poetry reading by the Urban Voices. Zakkiyah Muhammad, Marlon G. Cresse, T. Clay Williams, Marie Thomas, Sam Burgess Jr., Daphne Beryand, Malin Solamen, Myron Rodgers, Joseph Falgout, James Brown, Zul Lattifah Zahar and Anne Godson Brown certainly proved that the in-

**J. Gregory Clemens
Anne Godson Brown**



Dr. Clement A. Price



Zul Lattifah Zahar



**Phillip S. Thomas
James Brown**



Mayor Ken Gibson



ner city does have a voice that it can rely upon to voice its concerns, fears, and aspirations.

A health food refreshment bar and entertainment by Corky Caldwell on piano and Sydney Johnson and Khalida Smith on vocals followed the presentation at the Newark Public Library's main branch at 5 Washington St. Also on hand for remarks were Newark Mayor Kenneth Gibson and library director Thomas J. Abutz.

AFRICA: week of AUGUST 30, 1981

Grab Hold Of The Cold!

"COLD WRAP" BOTTLES

IN 16 OZ. "COLD WRAP" BOTTLES.



-Grab hold of the Cold Wrap bottle for Coca-Cola.
The Cold Wrap is a band of insulation wrapped around
16 ounces of refreshing Coca-Cola. Your Coke stays
icy cold on the inside. Your bottle stays nice
to hold on the outside.
So, grab hold of the cold.

The Cold Wrap for Coca-Cola.

Word Processing — A New Frontier

Word Processing is the most advanced form of business communications to capture American market since the electronic typewriter.



If you're a Black male or female between the ages of 18 and 30, seeking the keys to financial success in the business world, enroll today in tomorrow's office boom — Word Processing.

Word Processing (Electronic Keyboard Computer Terminal Printers) is the most advanced form of business communications to capture the American market since the electronic typewriter. According to management experts, the *Esquire* represents the first decade in which the majority of American workers will occupy the white collar group of office workers.

Randy J. Goldfield, President of Gibbs Consulting Group, a division of Katharine Gibbs School, Inc., states that American offices spew out nearly 600 million pages of computer printouts, 234 million photocopies, and 76 million letters daily.

"This deluge of paper (about 65 new sheets of paper a day per office worker) is threatening to overwhelm us in a flood of information which can

not be generated, processed, used, or stored effectively," says Goldfield.

What is an office manager to do? Smart managers are converting to word processing. There are numerous makers and models. The giants of the industry include Xerox, IBM, Wang, and Xerox. New comers and the smaller firms include Olivetti, Burroughs, Sony, Syntex, Datapoint, Prime Computer, Hazeltine, and most recently Harris.

These machines have capabilities of typing thousands of letters in minutes, individually addressing them, storing information for later recall, performing as word stations for office sections,

printing annual reports, and a variety of other duties.

Starting salaries for qualified word processors are reported to range from \$13,000 to \$22,000 per year.

Although historically extracting secretaries and clerk typists to the new word processing programs currently being run by private institutions and companies, this skill has no sex category. Increasing numbers of young men are entering the word processing field.

Word processors are needed in a variety of fields: television, radio, hospitals, retail stores, financial and legal offices. They help build industrial complexes, rockets and

spacehips, chart navigation courses, and compute economic trends.

Interested in learning Word Processing, but have no idea where to find a good training program? Check out the Word Processing Institute (WPI) located in Elizabeth, N.J.

WPI is a private school founded and directed by Jesse Gibson, a black man with a lot of vision.

Mr. Gibson began the training program three years ago as an outgrowth of need in his auto-typing service, Lutter Perfect, for qualified word processors.

"I attended a conference sponsored by OGC in 1977 and saw a demonstration of the

Xerox 800. I thought the device was fantastic," he began a study of fifty-four agencies and businesses using word processing to find out where they got their operators from, the problems, if any, word processors experience in the office environment, and how they relate to other office workers," says Gibson.

As a former director for the United Negro College Fund of Essex County, he stresses the importance of young blacks getting into the new technology while it is in its infancy stages.

"In our society competition is fair so long as there is no economic threat. When the threat comes, the organization

organizes **some people out**. If minorities don't get into word processing, the same things are going to happen that happened in other industries or fields. Minorities are going to be organized out," states Gibson.

You can not escape this technology because one day your refrigerator, stove, washing machine, stereo, and television will be computerized.

So why not train yourselves now for tomorrow? Be part of the first Black generation to change the old tired business cliché — "Last hired first fired."

by Marlene Hooper

Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis Jr.

Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr., the Grammy Award winning husband and wife vocal duo, have announced plans to pursue individual careers. Marilyn McCoo made her solo debut at the Nugget in Sparks, Nevada. Her new show was produced by Lester Wilson.

Billy Davis Jr. is presently in the studio recording a gospel album with Reverend James Cleveland. Both McCoo and Davis have also recently completed solo recording sessions and are currently negotiating

individual record deals. They are being represented at the William Morris Agency by Norman Broker.

The switch to separate careers is solely designed to allow greater personal expression within their work, but does not preclude recording or performing as a vocal duo.

McCoo and Davis were original members of the Fifth Dimension, one of the top vocal groups of the 1960s and early 1970s. They were married in 1969 and left the group in 1975.

As a duo McCoo and Davis reached the top of the charts with "You Don't Have To Be A Star (To Be In My Show)." The song was a certified RIAA Gold Million Seller and earned them their first Grammy Award in 1977. Their album, "I Hope We Get To Love In Time," received "BIAA" Gold status as well.

They were awarded the Grand Prize at the Tokyo Annual Music Festival and hosted the "Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr. Show" on CBS.

"I'm very excited about

going on my own and I'm also a little scared," said Marilyn. "Billy and I had talked about it at great

length. We feel that our marriage is very secure and that by performing alone, each of us will have

an opportunity to expand our range that much more."



STAINLESS SALE

INTERNATIONAL SILVER COMPANY

Fine Stainless

All "Deluxe" Patterns
5 pc. Place Setting
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and DESIGN



WE ALL YOU CAN BE.

Calendar to college

Like a space flight, getting into college these days requires a lot of preparation. And it's hard to keep track of the many deadlines—registering for entrance exams, filing applications and financial aid forms, scheduling interviews, and fulfilling other requirements. If there's a college-bound high school junior or senior in your household, keep this calendar handy as a reminder of what needs doing when.

SEPTEMBER

- 11th grade: On return to school, consult to make sure you are taking a strong college preparatory program. Take practice tests for PSAT.

- 11th grade: Ask two teachers for recommendations for colleges; prepare for the November SAT (given in October in six states) by taking practice tests in a SAT book or taking a SAT review course; attend meetings with college representatives when they visit your school; set up interviews and visit colleges.

OCTOBER

- 11th grade: Take the PSAT. (Results come in five to six weeks. Top scores qualify for National Merit Scholarships. You'll be notified next fall.)

- 12th grade: Visit and have interviews at colleges; attend meetings at school with college representatives; register for November SAT and Achievements.

NOVEMBER

- 11th grade: Have preliminary college discussion with counselor.

- 12th grade: SAT and Achievement tests this month (you'll receive scores in four to six weeks); meet at school with college representatives and interview at colleges; fill out college application forms; deadlines for some early decision applications.

DECEMBER

- 11th grade: If you are taking an Advanced Placement (AP) course, ask about AP exam.

- 12th grade: Some early decision replies; most applications to colleges with January 1 deadlines; make sure teachers have mailed recommendation letters; financial aid forms available after December 1; ask counselor about all available scholarships; SAT and Achievement tests given.

JANUARY

- 11th grade: Prepare for spring SAT by taking tests in a SAT review book and perhaps registering for a SAT review course.

- 12th grade: Mid to late-January deadlines for some early and some regular decision applications; make sure all material relating to applications has been sent to each college; send Achievement tests this month; apply for most college scholarships.

FEBRUARY

- 11th grade: Discuss your PSAT scores with counselors to see how to review for SAT; start studying for SAT.

- 12th grade: February 1 and 15 deadlines for applications at some colleges; send updated material to add to your file at each college.

MARCH

- 11th grade: There's a SAT this month (except in New York state); register for later SATs. Achieve merit tests, and AP, if applicable; write to some colleges for brochures.

- 12th grade: Some college acceptance letters this month; not too late to apply to certain other schools if you think you need to.

APRIL

- 11th grade: Review college brochures and applications.

- 12th grade: Most college acceptance and financial-aid replies come this month; decide where to go by discussing with parents and counselor and by visiting any schools you have not already seen and are considering—most colleges request your reply by May 1; if you are not accepted at a college you want to attend, consider a college placement service.

MAY

- 11th grade: There's a SAT, and there are Achievement tests and the APs. This month (usually in four to six weeks); make appointments for summer interviews of some colleges (many have summer sessions, so you can see classes in progress).

- 12th grade: Take APs, if applicable; keep applying for independent college scholarships. Look into those offered by your community, local business, unions, and other organizations.

JUNE

- 11th grade: There's a SAT, and there are Achievement tests. This month (results will come during the summer, confirm next year's courses).

- 12th grade: Study college course catalog and make a list of courses that you would like to

take freshman year.

JULY

- 11th grade: Results of AP tests; start visiting and having interviews at colleges; start a file of brochures and applications for schools you like.

- 12th grade: Results of AP tests; if you don't

know how to type take a typing course (college requires lots of typed papers); buy a typewriter and a good dictionary.

AUGUST

- 11th grade: Continue visits and interviews at colleges; start filling out applications (if colleges

have them available) for those that interest you.

- 12th grade: Freshman orientation week of some colleges.

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COULD YOUR MAIN SQUEEZE BE OUR NEXT MAIN SQUEEZE?



The lady who represents Smirnoff's delightful combination of Grapefruit Juice and Vodka has to be somebody special. Maybe you know her. She's all sugar and spice. But she's also got that added something, that something extra, that makes her your main squeeze.

If your lady's got what it takes, send in the coupon below along with her picture. Who knows? Your main squeeze could become our Main Squeeze and appear in SMIRNOFF ADVERTISING.

Smirnoff®

Smirnoff Main Squeeze Contest
P.O. Box 500
Manly Hill Station
New York, N.Y. 10550

MAIN SQUEEZE CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Here's a picture of my Main Squeeze

Full Name:		
Her Address:		
State:		
Zip Code:	City:	State:
Her Age:	Height:	Weight:
My Name:		
My Address:		
City:		
State:		
Zip Code:		
My Telephone Number:		

SMIRNOFF MAIN SQUEEZE CONTEST RULES:

- To enter, COMPLETE THE SMIRNOFF MAIN SQUEEZE CONTEST ENTRY FORM and send it along with a photograph of your Main Squeeze to "Smirnoff Main Squeeze Contest," P.O. Box 500, Manly Hill Station, New York, N.Y. 10550.
- Photographs submitted may be either color or black and white prints. NO SMIRNOFF TRANSPARENTS OR UNEXPOSED FILM WILL BE JUDGED. Sorry, no promissory or return will be returned. An entrant forfeits the property of Smirnoff, Inc., which and have the right to use any or all entries for advertising, publicity and promotional purposes. Photographs must be at least 3 x 5 and not larger than 8 x 10. An applicant must be legally drunk (during rules are permitted).
- All entries must be submitted by either a friend or spouse. All entrants and their partners must be of legal drinking age in their state of residence. All entries must be received by October 31, 1981.
- The national winner will appear in some form of Smirnoff's advertising in 1982. The national winner will be required to sign an affidavit certifying her eligibility and compliance with all contest rules. Plus a release form which will allow the use of her likeness and image for advertising and promotional purposes by Smirnoff, Inc.
- The contest is open to residents of the United States, except employees (and their families) of Smirnoff, Inc. and their advertising agencies. Winners and their families residing outside the United States and professional models are not eligible to win. This contest is void where prohibited by law. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER.



Paquito D'Rivera

Betty Carter

The Voice is a Song

COPY Credit: Maria K. Musca
Photo Credit: Bruce M. Terry

Every once in a while there comes an event, and an artist, that captivates the hearts and minds of an audience and leaves a mark that could be only described as indelible. The final program of the celebrated Brooklyn '81, a summer festival at the North Street Bandshell in Prospect Park, was such an event, featuring Brooklyn's extraordinary song stylist Betty Carter and trio, David Aram and the Brooklyn Philharmonia Orchestra and CBS recording artist Paquito D'Rivera. This amazing performance was actually two concerts in one.

Opening with David Aram and the Brooklyn Philharmonia's presentations of Estancia, an Argentinian Malambo, and proceeding to a

beautiful medley of Brooklyn-Born composer George Gershwin's Porgy and Bess, the first half of the program was a blend of classical music backed by a fair piece latin percussion section and a two minute tribute to the program by the personable Mr. Aram. His tribute utilized the music of Salsa, or Lascia, people of South Dakota. Also included in this inspiring first half was Duke Ellington's Come Sunday From The Black, Brown And Beige Suite. Arranged by Maurice Peress, this melodic piece brings to mind a favorite Ellington Azzur: "Let's Just Drop All The Titles And Just Call It Music."

Prior to the concert, and throughout the beginning of the first half, a dark swath of black

ominous clouds hang over the Bandshell. Then Betty Carter came out and sang the Clouds Away. When you think of song stylists, singers who redefine standards as well as new pieces, you think of Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Nancy Wilson, Helen Hume and Alberta Hunter, to name a few; among that select group is Betty Carter. Whether singing with the full Brooklyn Philharmonia Orchestra, or later on with her superb young trio, Miss Carter has a style and stage presence that few singers will ever acquire.

Aided by Curtis Landry on bass, Khalid Moss on piano, and Louis Nash on drums, Miss Carter's two-hour set features few overdone standards and a selection of quality

pieces, many of which I'm sure she wrote herself.

Onstage Miss Carter is at once singer, dancer, actress and storyteller. Her superb delivery and inflections make each song an adventure into a musical wonderland. Commanding the stage and moving back and forth between her musicians, she seems to push them to keep up with her scintillating, demonstrative style.

That's the way it is with me, social call, old times, a brand new love song, and we're moving on all proved that Miss Carter is able to handle the up-tempo pieces and the ballads just as well.

Yes, the voice is an instrument, and Betty Carter proves it.



Khalid Moss



Curtis Landy



SAVE 30% CLOSEOUT! On Our Best 4-Ply Tire

Sears

Dynaply 24
A78-13 Whitewall
32⁸⁸
Plus 1.56 F.E.T.

Sears Dynaply 24 Whitewall	Regular Price Ex.	Sale Price Ex.	Plus P.E.T. Each
A78-13	47.00	32.88	1.56
B78-13	55.00	38.50	1.71
E78-14	60.00	41.99	2.94
G78-14	61.00	42.79	2.14
G78-14	64.00	44.80	2.28
G78-15	67.00	46.99	2.36
H78-15	68.00	47.60	2.57
L78-15	72.00	50.40	2.84

Hurry! Quantities are limited.

SAVE 25% CLOSEOUT! All-Season Radial

**Weather
Handler**
P155/BOR-12
Whitewall
Reg. \$64.00

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Plus 1.40 F.E.T.

Sears Weather Handler P155/BOR-12 Whitewall	Make & Model Submodel Year	Reg. Price Ex.	Sale Price Ex.	Plus P.E.T. Each
P155/BOR-12	155P-12	52.00	38.97	1.51
P155/BOR-13	A878-13	59.00	44.25	1.65
P155/BOR-13	-	66.00	49.50	1.85
P155/BOR-13	B878-13	63.00	47.25	1.87
P155/BOR-13	C878-13	68.00	51.25	2.08
P155/BOR-13	D878-13	76.00	56.25	2.23
P155/BOR-14	E878-14	80.00	59.97	2.24
P155/BOR-14	F878-14	87.00	65.25	2.48
P155/BOR-15	G878-15	89.00	66.97	2.62
P155/BOR-15	H878-15	95.00	71.25	2.81
P155/BOR-15	L878-15	98.00	73.50	2.95

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20% OFF Sport-Size Radials

Roadhandler
155R12
37⁹⁷
Plus 1.37 F.E.T.

Sale Ends Sept. 26

Sears Roadhandler Sport Radial	Regular Price Ex.	Sale Price Ex.	Plus P.E.T. Each
155R12	46.00	37.97	1.37
155R13	54.00	43.20	1.68
155R14	60.00	48.00	1.71
155R15	63.00	50.40	1.87
155R16	66.00	52.80	1.97
155R17	70.00	56.00	2.00
155R18	72.00	57.60	2.07
155R19	75.00	59.97	2.14

Sears has tires for your van pick-up and RV.



SAVE 20% Typhoon Steel Wheels

13-Inch Reg. \$39.99
14-Inch Reg. \$49.99
15-Inch Reg. \$64.99
31⁹⁹ 39⁹⁹ 43⁹⁹
Ex. Ex. Ex.

Sale Ends Sept. 12th

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Off Sears Regular Prices
For Selected Services When
You Use All The Coupons

Young
For Only
1999

Save \$100 on Sears regular price for selected automotive services by using all the coupons. Coupon must be used only on a trade-in against the regular selling price of the service. In other words, you get \$100 off the total price. Coupon not valid unless presented by time of service. Coupon valid for 12 months from date of purchase. Coupon redeemable at most Sears store.

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**NOW! Leave
Your Car**

For Service Even When
Sales Is Closed

At Your Convenience!

1. Leave keys in special automotive service vehicles.
2. 24-hr. hot instructions and drop in especially marked slots.
Available At Sears Complete Larger Auto Centers*

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**Muzzler®
Muffler**
24⁹⁹

Standard systems require additional parts and labor not included in the installed price. Also, paint, grease, clamps and hangers, if needed, at extra cost.

See Sears Automotive Sales
At A Sears Complete Store

GREAT VALUE



**Electronic Tune-Up
Most 4 Cyl.
39⁹⁹**

Most 4 cyl. — \$4.99 Most 6 cyl. — \$9.99
We install new Champion or ACDelco plugs, wiper, PCV valve, fan filter and remove control valve. Set spark, first cylinder adjustment, timing and vacuum system. Check oil level. Adjust carburetor and choke. Clean throttle cable. Road test. Rebalanced wheels on 4 tire only.

See Automotive Sales At Sears Complete Larger Auto Centers

SAVE 25%



**Rustproofing
\$88**

Reg. \$119.99

Sears Rustproofing Service will help and you can learn the benefits of a long lasting protection for rust control, salt and moisture protection. For most American cars and trucks.

At Sears Complete Larger Auto Centers

VOTING

some responsive people in decision-making positions. The whites know they can just about get along without an political ally. That means we get on by what they want to give us.

County Attorney Coleman, however, scoffs at the notion that whites can't, or don't, adequately represent blacks. In fact he claims, "The blacks get as much or more service than the whites" from the present council. McCain disagrees, and notes that the black complaint is in any case more basic than provision of services. "There's no question that we don't get services like we should," McCain says. "We never have. But even if we did, that would still miss the point. There was more to school desegregation than reading and

(Continued from Pg. 12)

writing, and there's more to bilingual policies than paved roads. There's an inherent value in office holding that goes far beyond your picking up the garbage. A race of people who are excluded from public office will always be second class. I know it, and the people who keep Edgelfield's government all white know it."

McCain lost the 1974 race for county council, and a second race two years later, because whites don't vote for blacks in Edgelfield. A visual examination of election returns reveals the severe racial polarization in local voting. In present, mainly white districts, where voting patterns are clearest, black candidates always get virtually the same number of votes—few, or none at all.

The election returns also show that if Edgelfield were divided into five districts along its present residential district lines, two of the districts would have a majority of black registered voters. Candidates like McCain would stand a realistic chance of winning office in these districts, an opportunity currently denied them by the at-large system. Indeed, McCain won his position as chairman of the Democratic Party because the delegates to the county convention which chose him are elected from individual districts or precincts. Enough of the delegates were black to give him the margin of victory.

In 1974, McCain and two other blacks decided to do something about Edgelfield's elections and filed a federal lawsuit charging that at-large vote was unconstitutional, diluted their voting strength. While the law-

suit was pending, the county council adopted an ordinance in 1976 implementing statewide home rule, and providing for elections at large. The ordinance was a change in voting but was not a change in representation. Section Five of the Voting Rights Act. As a result, the elections of 1976 and 1978 were held in violation of the act. A belated submission was made and in February, 1979, the attorney general objected to the use of at-large elections, noting that if a new election system was adopted "that more accurately reflects minority voting strength, such as single member districts," the objection would be reconsidered. A single member plan was in fact prepared and approved by the council, but was never submitted under Section Five because the council later took the position that the attorney general's objection was not binding.

When it appeared that the administrative proceedings under section Five had broken down in Edgelfield, and that no new method of elections was being established to meet the attorney general's objection, the trial judge entered an order last April in favor of McCain and the other plaintiffs. The court reached "the inevitable conclusion" that Edgelfield's at-large system was unconstitutional and "must be changed." Some of the court's findings were:

- "Until 1970, no black had ever served as a precinct election official, and since that year the number of blacks appointed to serve has been negligible."
- "Blacks were historically excluded from jury service in Edgefield County."
- "Blacks have been excluded from employment. It was only when the trial was about to begin that the county suddenly began hiring blacks in any numbers... In addition, blacks are heavily concentrated at the lower wage levels."
- "Blacks have been excluded by the County Council in appointments to county boards and commissions."
- "There is black voting by the whites on a scale that has never before observed... Whites absolutely refuse to vote for a black."

Four days after the court's opinion, the U.S. Supreme Court effectively overruled it by handing down *City of Mobile v. Bolden*, a decision which shocked even those civil rights activists familiar with conservative rulings of the Burger court. The case originated when a group of Mobile black plaintiffs brought a lawsuit in 1975 charging that the city's at-large election system diluted their voting strength in violation of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments and the Voting Rights Act. The plaintiffs based their legal claim primarily upon a 1973 court of appeals decision. *Plummer v. McKeithen*, which held that at-large voting can be shown to be unconstitutional through an accumulation of circumstantial evidence—such as by showing a history of racial discrimination in the city, a disproportionately low number of minorities elected to office, lack of responsiveness by elected officials to the needs of the black community, a disparate economic base, candidate slating, etc.—the same kinds of things relied upon by the judge in the Edgelfield voting case.

According to the Supreme Court's *Mobile* decision, such factors do not in themselves establish an unconstitutional denial of voting rights. The court, in a split ruling, said that plaintiffs in vote dilution cases must prove intentional discrimination. They acknowledged that the Constitution protects the right to register and vote without hindrance, but held that it does not protect the right to have the vote count. That right would only be violated if the voting system, when consciously conceived and operated as a purposeful device to further racial discrimination.

The *Mobile* decision places at all but impossible burden upon those challenging racially discriminatory election procedures. Indivisible intent can no longer be shown; by past deeds, a history of discrimination and its effects; only those challenges will win, presumably, when elected officials are caught making overtly racial defenses of voting procedures. None but the naive—or, apparently, Supreme Court justices—can expect that to happen very often. Public officials, especially those who are sued and represented by counsel, rarely admit to racism. *Mobile* means that blacks in jurisdictions such as

Edgelfield which use at large voting—including most Southern cities, counties and school boards—will be denied any remedy for exclusion from office.

Following the Supreme Court's decision, the district judge in the Edgelfield case withdrew his earlier opinion and reopened the case to give the plaintiffs a chance to prove that local elections were adopted, or were maintained, intentionally to exclude blacks. Tom McCain then amended his complaint asking the court to order Edgelfield officials to comply with Section Five's provisions. He also requested in adopting a large voting in 1966 and in implementing statewide home rule in 1976. Given the normal practice of the courts to avoid deciding constitutional questions whenever possible, the Supreme Court's complaint may be judged solely on Edgelfield's violation of the procedural requirements of Section Five rather than on the constitutional question of its purported intent to dilute black voting strength.

There is one major catch. Beginning August 6, 1982, South Carolina and most of the South will be in a position to escape being governed by Section Five. The Voting Rights Act's requirement that jurisdictions clear proposed changes with the federal government is limited to 17 years from the time they use a "test or device" to restrict voters' rights—namely, from 1965, when such practices became illegal.

Organizing inside the South and by national groups is now underway to get Congress to extend the length of time states such as South Carolina must follow Section Five. Saying "it is the duty of this generation of black people to take not one step backward," a coalition of groups in South Carolina recently announced plans to push for the act's extension.

Laughlin McDonald was born and grew up in Winnsboro, South Carolina, not far from Edgelfield. Director of the Southern Regional Office of the ACLU, he has represented blacks in Edgelfield County in numerous civil rights lawsuits. Reprinted from the Spring, 1981 issue of SOUTHERN EXPOSURE, a special on the civil rights movement entitled "Stayed on Freedom"—available from P.O. Box 531, Durham, NC 27702.

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When Earth, Wind & Fire's keyboard wizard Larry Dunn isn't making music with the hit Columbia Records band, he spends his time...making more music. Here Dunn (left) visits with jazz saxophonist Stanley Turrentine, whose new album Dunn is currently producing. And why the smiles? Well, Dunn and Denzel Miller (right) have delivered a song they composed for the album to Turrentine, and it looks like the three of them hear a hit.



Ernest Dickerson, center, a master of fine arts degree candidate in film production in New York University's School of the Arts, receives a 1981 fellowship from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Presenting the award is Leo Jaffe, chairman of Columbia Pictures, accompanied by Eleanor Hamerow, head of the Graduate Institute of Film and Television at NYU.

Personally Speaking

Black Media in the Future

By: Stephen Attles

During the 1960's a then militant NAACP fought hard to get Amos 'n' Andy off radio, and television. The complaint was the failure of electronic media to show Black people in a positive way. Amos 'n' Andy depictions were that mostly all Black people were dumb, low life, hood scratching and lazy talking. For many years after the demise of the show, Blacks were excluded from important positions in the film industry, newspapers, magazines, radio and television.

During the new evolution of the 1960's Blacklacers were all over the television due to such changes as the Kerner Commission. The Kerner Commission reported in 1968 that the media had "not compensated to the majority of their audience, which is white, a sense of the degradation, misery and hopelessness of living in a city or a feeling for the difficulties of being a Black man in this country."

Today there are 966 television stations in this country but only one is controlled by Blacks, and only 6% of the 8,196 radio are controlled by Blacks. White media feels that they can put anything out there and the Black market will enjoy it. Blacks need to participate more fully in ownership and the operation of the American media because it affects Black children mostly.

In the television industry Blacks generally watch television on an average of about 25 hours a week more than whites. Many Black children who watch it believe in what they see. We need shows and films to educate and to influence and to communicate to Blacks in a positive way yet making it realistic depicting true Black history. History affects the present as well as the future. White America misinforms who about Blacks as well as Blacks about Blacks.

Many Blacks feel that the shows on television are on for the chief entertainment for Black audiences, the TV producers, and directors and writers do not know what Black people are like or

what Black viewers like. The producers really do not care what the Black viewers like. True, the shows have enormous Black audiences but things have not changed since Amos 'n' Andy. The current running Black life shows on television are

stereotypes.

What can be done about the racism within the media industry? Black people must be very critical of what is being shown on television because media can be a means of expelling misinformation. Media

also has conditioned the Black American to believe they are inferior or backward. Blacks must realize the importance of their history because in the past it has been used as one way back. History need not repeat itself.



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